

Minutes of Midtown Community Council Meeting

January 15, 2020

3000 C STREET, 1ST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

The January meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm and the November minutes were approved unanimously. Amendments to the agenda were approved unanimously. President Al Tamagni was not present, and so Vice-President Ric Davidge presided over the meeting.

Reports of Local Law Enforcement: There were no officers present, but Vice-President Davidge provided an update. He also reported that the Anchorage Police Department Chief is encouraging anyone with a complaint on an officer to submit a report, either directly or anonymously.

Reports of State Officials: Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson was present and gave a report on the upcoming Legislative Session. She is sponsoring a companion bill to Representative Garen Tarr's House Bill on sexual assault kit testing, as well as sponsoring a companion bill to Representative Zack Field's bill on preventing prisoners from being shipped out of state. She is also work on legislation to update the ability of medical professionals to prescribe disability placard cards and to address climate change. The Senator will continue chairing on the Health and Social Services finance subcommittee.

Reports of Local Officials: Assemblywoman Meg Zaletel gave an update to the council on the upcoming tax proposals—two for alcohol tax and one for sales tax. Ms. Zaletel also provided an overview of the bond package, including schools, Anchorage/Eagle River earthquake repair, facilities (e.g., library elevators and fire personnel equipment), and road bonds.

Christine Hill, a candidate for Anchorage Assembly, was present and made herself available for any questions.

Reports of Councils: The Executive Committee met in December and in January. December's meeting focused on renewal notices, crime mapping, the Assembly's work on homelessness. Christine Hill sat in on the meeting. January's meeting focused on the Mom & Pop's liquor license, the Assembly's proposed 5% alcohol tax, and that President Al Tamagni and Members Tim Potter and Brian Swartzentruber will be working on Capital Projects.

Presentations: Council member Kris Stoehner, a property owner on 48th Avenue, updated the council on the construction upgrade project. The Council will organize a special meeting between stakeholders and the Municipality on this project.

Hearing Notices: There were no notices.

Old Business: Tim Potter updated the council on Mom & Pop's Liquor license. Owner Eddie Lee has been noncompliant and there has been two work sessions with the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office. The council discussed what would happen should Mr. Lee sell his business: the new license holders would have to apply for a license transfer with AMCO.

Walmart is also applying for a liquor license renewal and Mr. Potter will work with them and develop an MOU to include minimum pricing and shooter sales. He noted that they keep their parking lot clear of liquor bottle litter, and that the bottles don't travel far (i.e., the littered bottles are consistent with what

each store sells). A motion was made by Tim Potter to support this work, which was seconded by Member Brian Swartzentruber and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Potter has also been working with Brown Jug and has a draft memorandum of understanding in place. Brown Jug objected to different price points for “shooters” across council districts, and so Spenard Community Council will increase their price point (in their MOUs) to \$1.70 to be consistent with MTCC at \$1.00/fl. oz. Clause C of the MTCC agreement in the MOUS is to support the Anchorage Assembly’s sales tax; Secretary Albert Circosta made a motion to approve the Brown Jug MOU without clause C, but the motion was withdrawn. Secretary Albert Circosta then made a motion to approve the MOU and the motion as passed unanimously.

CRW presented an update on the 32nd and 33rd Avenue project and notified the council of the open house on February 11.

New Business:

Rick Beasley from Red Light District, a marijuana dispensary, plans a future cultivation and retail location at 405 E. Northern Lights. He already has a MOU with the Council for Fuzzy Monkey and Green Light District and is willing to mirror that for the Red Light District location.

Public Comment:

The meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.